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PREFACE

The rebranding of 8 modules has been approved by the UMP Senate in February 2016. The 8 modules comprise:

i. Philosophy of Science and Ethics in Research
ii. Research Overview
iii. Literature Review
iv. Methodology
v. Data Collection and Analysis
vi. Scientific Writing
vii. Preparation for viva-voce
viii. Conceptual Paper

8 modules are one of the Institute of Postgraduate Studies (IPS) initiatives in helping students to understand ways and means to carry out research at Master's and PhD level. There are 2 sets of 8 modules provided by IPS in accordance with the technology and engineering cluster. These 8 modules are intended to help students in conducting systematic research owing to its utmost importance in determining the effectiveness and efficiency of the research process. The 8 modules shall help students to understand the research problem and identify the areas of research. The modules also assist students on how to write a literature review in order to understand how other researchers approach, define or manage the problem to keep the research pertinent to what is current in the field. In addition, 8 modules also facilitate students to understand the methods of collecting data in an organized and controlled way to achieve valid results, analyze the data according to the considered problem and make conclusions. Therefore, IPS hopes that these modules will be able to provide some insights and benefit students in conducting research at Master's and PhD level.

INSTITUTE OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG

TABLE OF CONTENT

Module Description vii
Module Outcomes vii
Module Outlines vii

Topic 1 : The Needs for Viva Voce 1
1.1 Defining Viva Voce 1
1.2 General Needs for Viva Voce 2
1.3 Specific Needs for Viva Voce 2

Topic 2 : Viva Voce Panel and its Role 3
2.1 Role of Panel Members 3
2.2 Variation of Examiners 5
2.3 Adapting to Examiners' Diverse Style 5

Topic 3 : Motivation Behind the Research Work 7
3.1 Justifying the Resolved Research Gap 7
3.2 Demonstrating the Strength of Research Solutions 7

Topic 4 : Implications of the Research Work 9
4.1 Viability of the Research Work 9
4.2 Impact of the Findings 9

Topic 5 : Key Areas to be Evaluated 11
5.1 Clarity of the Research Work 11
5.2 Sufficiency of the Scope 11
5.3 Ability to Engage With Scientific Community 12

Topic 6 : Viva Voce Presentation Skills 13
6.1 Impactful Presentation Skills 13
6.2 Confidence During Presentation 14
6.3 Anticipating Possible Questions 15

Topic 7 : Possible Outcomes of Viva Voce 17
7.1 The Five Possible Outcomes (Scales) 17
7.2 The Consequences of Each Outcome 17

Conclusion 19
References and Further Readings 21

MODULE DESCRIPTION

This module delivers a stepwise preparation for the oral examination, the *viva voce*, of research candidates. It presents the needs for such examination and guiding the users towards achieving it successfully. It is essential to understand the very needs for viva voce at earlier stage possible, in order to cater for the research activities towards satisfying its needs. There are many misconceptions about the viva voce, for instance, the belief that it is a 'defence' which erroneously positions the students in a defensive manner throughout the oral session. With a defensive attitude, it is not possible for the students to discuss matters openly with the examiners. In such a situation, it is not possible to have a healthy academic engagement with the experts of the field (examiners). For this reason, this module directs the users to have a true understanding of viva voce and equips them with all the necessary skills to *celebrate* their enhanced knowledge.

MODULE OUTCOMES

On the successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Have a clear understanding on the very needs of viva voce
- Develop effective self-directed skills to handle the viva voce
- Take responsibility for the success of viva voce

MODULE OUTLINES

Module Description
Module Outcomes
1. The Needs for Viva Voce
2. Viva Voce Panel and Its Role
3. Motivation behind the Research Work
4. Implications of the Research Work
5. Key Areas to be Evaluated
6. Viva Voce Presentation Skills
7. Possible Outcomes of Viva Voce

Conclusion
References and Further Readings

The one that is most *adaptable to change* will *survive*; not the strongest nor the most intelligent
-Charles Darwin